GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

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INDIAN BOYS, WITH ELABORATE PONCHOS, VISITING CUZCO, PERU

Cuzco is the Mecca of all the Indians in southern Peru, and the most interesting sights in its streets are the visitors, whose districts may be told by the cuts of their garments and the patterns they affect.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

The Geographic News Bulletin is published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (in stamps or money order). Entered as second-class matter, January 27, 1922, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized February 9, 1922.

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The Wahabis: Puritans of the Moslem World

THE ATTACK upon Mecca by the Wahabis, the Puritans of the Mohammedan world, has a precedent. The Wahabis took the city in 1803 and held it for ten years.

Wahabism seems a fanatical, blood-thirsty movement as it is exemplified in the destructive raids of its votaries against their neighbors who differ somewhat in religious views, but it has suffered, as "movements" often suffer, from being taken over by narrower minds and hotter heads than those of its founder.

Demanded Return to Fundamentals

The Wahabi sect was founded early in the eighteenth century by Abd el Wahab, who might be termed the Cromwell of Mohammedanism, for he was essentially a Moslem Puritan, seeking to turn his faith back to what he considered its simple fundamentals. Feeling that Mohammedans should worship only one god, Allah, he was particularly disturbed by the tendency to deify Mohammed, who claimed to be only a mortal. He also found his neighbors invoking Moslem saints and preached against this practice. After Wahab died his fanatical converts wrecked the elaborate tombs of Moslem teachers and even tried to destroy the dome over the tomb of Mohammed at Medina.

Before his death Wahab converted to his simplified faith a powerful sheik of central Arabia, Mohammed Ibn Saoud. The convert became both the religious and political head of Wahabism; and he, too, took a leaf from the fundamental teachings of Mohammed and began spreading his faith by the sword.

When the Wahabis Were Masters of Arabia

Another Saoud, a descendant, found himself at the beginning of the nineteenth century master of practically all Arabia, with a powerful force of Wahabi fighters at his command. He took the sacred city, Mecca, and his enemies who had been taught to look upon the Wahabis as infidels, expected the worst. Saoud put his Puritanism into effect. He stamped out vicious practices which had been accompaniments to the pilgrimages; had his servants drive the populace with sticks to the mosques at prayer time; and policed the town. He had every tobacco pipe he could find seized and burned in a huge bonfire.

The powerful Wahabi state, centering in the interior of Arabia, was crushed by combined Egyptian and Turkish forces, between 1811 and 1818. Since 1824 the sect has been growing quietly, though its power was balanced by a non-Wahabi state, sharing the interior of the peninsula. Since the World War the Wahabis crushed this rival power and they now dominate all of central Arabia. Only the outer shell is held by non-Wahabis, and it is becoming a serious question whether these states, without European assistance, can hold their own against the fierce Bedouin fighters within.

The tenets of Wahabism to-day seem the mere husks of Wahab's teachings. No tomb can have a cupola; one must wear no articles of silk or use above the barest minimum of silver and gold as ornaments; valuable rugs and other fittings smacking of luxury are tabu in mosques; and above all tobacco must not be used. Surreptitious smokers have been killed on the spot by fanatical Wahabis and their executioners' deeds have been counted good.

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The Geographic's Notable Service to Schools

THE NATIONAL Geographic Society is by far the largest scientific and educational body in the world. It is a cooperative, noncommercial, altruistic organization, solely supported by dues of its members.

All the National Geographic Society's activities are educational and scientific; certain phases of its work are especially adapted for public-school use.

The Society's most important service to schools is that rendered through its NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, which, though published primarily for The Society's 950,000 members, now is employed widely in progressive American schools and in all well-equipped school libraries.

Teachers use THE GEOGRAPHIC because its twelve monthly issues contain forty or more fascinating, nontechnical, authoritative articles, illustrated by some 1,200 photographs, many in full color and velvety rotogravure.

Issues Form Geographic Library

Moreover, teachers realize that their GEOGRAPHICS, when preserved and bound, comprise a permanent, reliable, interesting cyclopedia of world geography; useful daily for reference, for problem and project work, and as a source of informing illustrations.

One perquisite of membership in The National Geographic Society appeals especially to teachers—that of receiving the numerous large wall maps and art supplements which are sent to all members without other charge than their payment of the $3.00 annual membership fee, which, of course, includes the 12 issues of THE GEOGRAPHIC.

Pictures in Loose-Leaf Form

Recently The Society met the need for separate copies of THE GEOGRAPHIC'S illustrations by issuing the sets of loose-leaf pictures, known as The Pictorial Geography, which will be described more fully upon request.

The World War and numerous peace adjustments, still in progress, brought 700,000 school teachers face to face with an unprecedented problem—that of teaching present-day geography and current events about places and peoples not even mentioned in textbooks or any available reference works.

A Generous Contribution to Schools

In this emergency educators called upon the National Geographic Society, which made a remarkable contribution to geography teaching by issuing weekly, without charge, a 12-page Geographic News Bulletin, sent to any teacher who requested it. The Federal Government formerly mailed these out under government frank.

The demand for the Bulletins became so heavy that the U. S. Bureau of Education no longer could handle them. However, The Society continues this generous contribution to the schools and The Bulletin is available to teachers who request it with no other charge than their payment of 25 cents to cover the cost of mailing the 30 issues for the school year.

Many Wish Geographics Separately Bound

Many single issues of THE GEOGRAPHIC, such as those devoted to Birds, Washington, Flowers, Fishes, Wild Animals, Flags of the World, alone would cost the amount of a year's membership if published commercially. Some of these issues, because of their value in nature study, in civics classes, and for visualization, have been separately bound and are frequently listed for required supplementary reading.

Procuring up-to-minute maps offers teachers another perplexing problem, and that problem is solved by large, detailed six-color wall maps issued frequently, as the need arises, to members of The Society. Following the publication of maps of the Continents, a series just completed, members will receive a noteworthy series of large, six-color maps of the States.

The Story a Map Can Tell

Such a map as The Society's 25 x 35-inch map of South America tells 300 pages of facts about the new railways, numerous boundary disputes, unexplored regions, and insets afford whole chapters at a glance about products, climate and physical features.

Society members, including teachers, also frequently wish unfolded copies of The Society's pictures of geographical subjects, either for their own homes or their schoolrooms. Therefore these, too, are sold separately, framed or unframed.

Geography Is "Livest Subject"

Geography is the livest subject in the curriculum today. It is both a cultural and a vocational subject. The effect of the varied phenomena of the world we live in on human life is an engrossing topic of life-long interest. Geography is as essential to modern business and commerce as chemistry and engineering are to the manufacturer.

The Society's School Service Department was created to make The Society's vast resources available to schools, and teachers are invited to call upon this department for any geographic help they need.

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Where Is Monday Born?

WHERE is Monday—or Wednesday or Saturday—born?

There is a practical side to this question, illustrated in the cruise of American Army Flyers around the world.

A newspaper date line—Paramushiri Island, Kuriles, May 17—did more to make the international Date Line an understandable reality to millions of readers than could numerous chapters in geographies.

This unusual date line appeared in morning newspapers of May 17 that had gone to press about four o'clock that morning. The dispatch told of the arrival the same day, Saturday, at about noon, of America's round-the-world flyers—apparently seven and a half hours after the papers were printed! But because the flyers had hurdled the Date Line immediately after leaving the last Aleutian island they had jumped 24 hours into the future. Their arrival was really about 16½ hours before the papers went to press. They had begun to speak a different time language from America: their 11:35 Saturday occurred when it still was Friday in the United States.

"Hour Lines" and "Date Lines"

The traveler for only part of the way across the United States encounters our "hour lines," the places where he must turn his watch backward or forward one hour.

For many years ships have sailed westward on the Pacific across a similar "day line," officially the International Date Line, and so have jumped 24 hours into the future. They must scratch a day off their calendar instead of turning their watches an hour ahead.

A moment's consideration will show why your calendar and your watch never are accurate from the standpoint of our basic time computation. That is, they don't conform exactly to the earth's annual trip around the sun or the earth's daily spin on her own axis.

Paradoxically, if everyone kept time in exact accord with the seasons and with the sunrise, such time would not be of much use. Your time would be accurate enough but nobody's else, unless he was precisely in the same longitude, would agree with you.

Why Your Watch Is Always Wrong

If you then took a twenty-hour train from New York to Chicago you would have to indulge in considerable mathematical calculation to tell your Chicago friend what time, by his watch, to meet you. Even in much shorter distances where accurate timing was necessary, say in a cross-country marathon run, the time difference between the watch of the starter and that of the finish timer would have to be calculated before the runners' records could be determined.

The troubles of the traveler in alternating between daylight saving time and standard time in the summer, which only requires an adjustment of an hour, would be simple compared to the chaos if everybody kept accurate solar time.

If everybody stayed home and had only news of his own locality the hour lines would not be necessary; if everybody concerned himself only with his own continent the Date Line would not be needed.

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BEEF EXTRACT STILL ON THE HOOF

Frozen and chilled beef lead the list of Argentine exports, much of the meat being converted into beef extract. There are more than six head of cattle for every inhabitant. About half of the animals are of native breeds and the rest cross-bred with thoroughbred imported stock. Fully one-half of Argentina's 750,000,000 acres is adapted to stock-raising. (See Bulletin No. 5.)

Form for Renewal of Bulletin Requests

Many requests for the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN were made for the year ending with this issue. If you desire the Bulletins continued kindly notify The Society promptly. The attached form may be used:

School Service Department,
National Geographic Society,
Washington, D. C.

Kindly send.....copies of the GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN for the school year beginning with the issue of....., for classroom use, to

Name.....

Address for sending Bulletins.....

City.....State.....

I am a teacher in.....school,.....grade.

Enclose 25 cents for each annual subscription.

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The Vikings: Yankees of the Tenth Century

REMAINS of two Viking cities recently were discovered on the shores of the Scandinavian peninsula.

Many persons pigeon-hole the Vikings along with Captain Kidd and Blackbeard as nothing more than pirates. But this is no more nearly true than some of our other easy generalizations about peoples we do not know.

The Vikings had among them merchants, explorers, lawgivers, and litterateurs, as well as guerrilla sea rovers. And if they must be branded a nation of robbers it might as well be recognized that we are discussing family affairs—opening the closet to examine our own private skeletons as it were. For under the name of Goth, Northman and Norman they poured blood into and contributed traits to the people of almost every country of western and southern Europe.

Viking Blood in British Stock

Especially is British stock indebted to Viking blood. It came early from their kinsmen the Angles and Saxons, it came through modification of Scot and Celt through Viking colonies in Scotland and Ireland, it came directly by invasion in the time of Canute, and finally came the important contribution of the Normans—Vikings once removed.

The Vikings were distinctly products of their geographic environment. They may be considered Germans who were made over by the more northern winter and led to the sea by the fiords and islands of Scandinavia. Their boats became to them what horses are to the Cossack or camels to the desert-dweller. The raids in which some of the youngbloods engaged were not piracy under the morality of the day, which made one's enemies fair marks for plunder.

Invented "Carbon Copies"

Americans should feel sympathetic toward the Vikings for they were, in many ways, the Yankees of their age. Restless and energetic, votaries of the strenuous life, lovers of adventure, they traveled for the love of travel and sought wealth —whether in merchant boats or war craft—for the love of the seeking. They loved their politics and enjoyed the debates of the Althing as fully as the fights in which their feasts often broke up. They were ardent out-door-sports enthusiasts, engaged in skiing, snow-shoeing and sledding in the winter, and staged wrestling, running and jumping matches in the warmer seasons. They even had their national ball game, a sort of hydrid between hockey and lacrosse.

A little imagination might serve to credit the Vikings with being a source of such modern devices as pure food laws, the carbon copies of our business world, and ship subsidies. One old Viking law announces that it shall be fraud to sell "sand or shavings for meal or butter." Viking merchants checked their wares from or into their boats by notches on tally sticks, and then ingeniously furnished both buyers and sellers records for their "files" by splitting the stick. King Canute was the Viking champion of an especially appealing ship subsidy. He decreed that any merchant who made three voyages overseas at his own expense should be ennobled.

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However, many people actually are traveling around the world, many more are sending messages halfway, or more, around it, and all of us are vicariously circumnavigating it in the date lines of our daily newspaper.

Where Shall the Day Begin?

Consider how this makes necessary an arbitrary day line, just as going from New York to Chicago makes necessary an arbitrary hour line.

It is midnight on the opposite side of the globe when it is noon where you are. Suppose you are in Washington, D. C., at one minute of midday on Thursday. At Rangoon, Burma, it is one minute of midnight, Thursday. As your watch passes the noon hour in Washington it becomes one minute past midnight in Rangoon—that is, the first minute of a new day for that place.

Now imagine yourself at Washington and consider that, by some magic means, you traveled instantaneously east to Rangoon, changing your watch one hour for every 15 degrees, because every 15 degrees marks an hour line. Should you thus travel eastward you would move the hands forward, hour by hour, until you approached Rangoon at one minute of midnight—the last minute of the day you started.

Now take the imaginary journey westward, moving your watch hands backward—that is to 11, 10, 9 o'clock, and so on, and you would approach Rangoon at one minute after midnight—the first minute of the same day you started! You would find Rangoon in the anomalous situation of being equally entitled to two times, from the Washington point of view, 24 hours apart!

It so happens that our time actually is based on the Greenwich Meridian, and the antipodes meridian of the Greenwich longitudinal line is in the middle of the Pacific. That then becomes the logical adjustment line, and so has been designated the International Date Line. Incidentally, jumping a day in mid-ocean confuses only the few people who cross this line in steamers. And they have plenty of time to figure out how they lost, or gained, a day.

Where New Days Tick Off

A new day comes into existence the first time then, along the line in space exactly on the opposite side of the earth from the sun, when the rotation of the earth moves the Date Line past. The first second of Monday is ticked off between the Samoan and Fiji Islands as the master clock at Greenwich ticks the first second past noon Sunday. This is when the first second after seven o'clock Sunday morning is registered in New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, the first second after six o'clock a. m. in St. Louis and Chicago, and the first second after four o'clock a. m. in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

When it is noon Sunday in St. Louis it is Monday over a quarter of the world and Sunday over three-quarters.

At seven o'clock Sunday evening, when Washingtonians are eating their evening meals, or at four o'clock p. m. when San Franciscans are strolling in the parks, the world is evenly divided between Sunday and Monday. At seven o'clock Monday morning in Washington when the first hammers of the week are beginning to pound, Sunday is giving its last gasp in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. An instant later, a few feet to the east, the infant Tuesday is born.

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How a Countess Discovered Quinine

WHEN the Department of Commerce designated quinine as one of the essential substances which America must seek beyond its shores, the honor of world significance was unconsciously paid to an obscure Spanish discoverer—a woman.

The Countess of Chinchon, a village 25 miles from Madrid, deserves mention with Magellan, Cook and Cortez because the explorations of these men would have meant much less if quinine had not been discovered to make the tropics safe for white men.

In spite of the seven-league strides of medicine, quinine, whose powers have now been known to civilization for 300 years, still is the leading curative agent for malaria and similar fevers. Elimination of the cheerful singing stingers from the tropics is beyond the ambition of man. Quinine remains the first line defense.

Came from Inca Tribe

The Countess, wife of a Viceroy of Peru of the early years of the seventeenth century, lying desperately ill with the malaria at Lima, determined to take a native bark solution recommended by a subordinate official. He must have obtained the quinine bark from a tribe of Incas. Unlike many unfortunate Spaniards in South American dominions, the Countess survived her malaria attack. Soon the story of her recovery spread. Jesuit missionaries got the bark from Indian tribes and took it back to ague-ridden Europe. Indeed, it was first called "Jesuit's bark" and it is sometimes called Peruvian bark to-day. Quinine's properties made it as valuable as Inca gold. Once it sold at $20 an ounce.

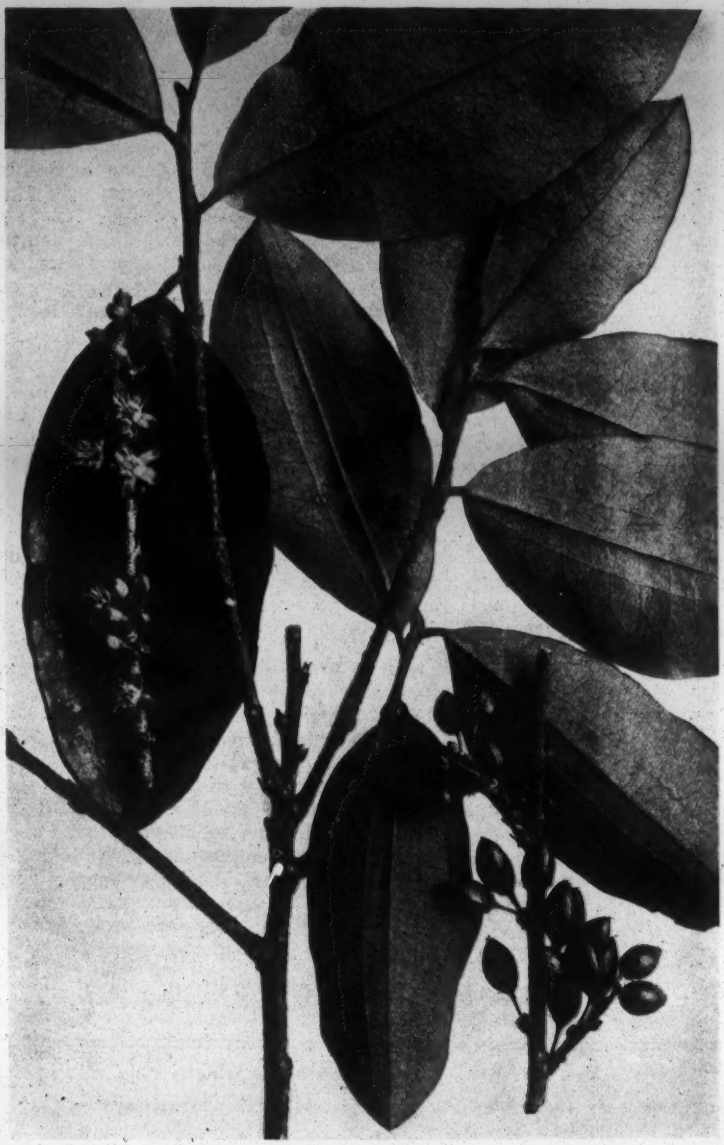
To-day the world receives most of its quinine from Holland, not Peru, and the Dutch get it from their mine of tropic wealth, Java. Although the United States leans heavily on the Dutch supply, taking as much as 30 tons out of a month's export of 43 tons, Great Britain is more dependent, for the British commonwealth of nations girdling the earth, finds quinine as necessary as warships.

In India the post offices and the postmen sell stamps and quinine; the latter at cost through the good offices of the British government. Attempts to enable India to produce her own quinine have been unsuccessful because Java can do it better and more cheaply.

A Quinine War Poster

Quinine went to the front in 1914. Living in a damp trench is one of the world's easiest ways to get fever. The governments liberally supplied men in the line with quinine; they even exhorted them to take the medicine. Many American "doughboys" probably remember French posters which contrasted the poilu who took quinine with the poilu who did not. The latter was the sickest-looking individual imaginable, chest caved in, sallow, drawn cheeks, ominous circles under his eyes. The poilu who took his quinine wore a smile that told the world he was "fine as a fiddle," as he stepped off down the street with his sweetheart on his arm.

There is a curious parallel in the transfer of the source of raw bark for



LEAVES, FLOWERS, AND MATURE BERRIES OF THE COCA PLANT, ANOTHER IMPORTANT PRODUCT OF PERU. (See Bulletin No. 4.)

All the parts are shown in natural size. The leaves, which are the source of the cocaine drug, are very peculiar. The two surfaces are quite unlike—the upper, deep green, smooth and velvety; the lower, light green, with a band of paler color on each side of the midrib, inclosed by fine ridges. The young leaves are rolled in from the margins, so that only this median band of the lower surface is exposed at first.

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Argentina: Another American "West"

ARGENTINA, which was entertaining the Crown Prince of Italy, while the United States extended its hospitality to the Prince of Wales, has many points in common with the United States.

A country of fertile plains, vast fields of grain, and tremendous herds of cattle, situated in a Temperate Zone, it is a land which may easily be understood in its major features by people of the United States familiar with the winning of our West.

Four Times as Large as Texas

In this great region, more than four times the area of Texas, and more than one-third that of the entire United States, the Western cattle man might find himself fairly well at home. The language and customs are alien, to be sure, but it is the language of Spain and the customs of the Spanish with which large numbers of Americans of our own "cow country" are familiar. In Argentina prairies become "pampas," cow boys are replaced by "gauchos," and the lariat must share with the bolo its place as an indispensable part of the equipment. Like his American counterpart, the gaucho is an expert horseman, thoroughly at home in the saddle and somewhat awkward and ill at ease out of it.

If Argentine livestock men have paralleled American methods they have surpassed their northern fellow herdsmen in the magnitude of their operations. On the pampas a herd of 50,000 sheep is considered small. Some herds number more than 800,000 of the animals.

Helps Feed Europe

Part of the great plains of Argentina are devoted to wheat growing to such good effect that many of the more populous European countries have looked for years to this republic of southeastern South America as the main source of supply for materials for their staff of life. The numerous huge grain warehouses that dot the country throughout a large section of Argentina announce unmistakably to the eye of the traveler that this is one of the world's foremost wheat regions.

Argentina is not alone a pastoral and agricultural country. In Buenos Aires it possesses the largest city situated south of the Equator, a community of between a million and a half and two million inhabitants. Within the past fifteen years this city has forged far ahead of Rio de Janeiro which was the former metropolis of the southern hemisphere.

Buenos Aires is a thoroughly modern city which has lessons in city planning for municipalities of the northern hemisphere. A pleasing sky line has been achieved through carefully framed building regulations strictly enforced. The streets are lined with trees even in the business sections. The city has the finest artificial docks in the world, commodious, and equipped with the latest machinery.

Famous Peace Statue

Though most visitors, entering from the east, see the country as a land of plains, in the west it contains the eastern slopes of the Andes, one of the world's

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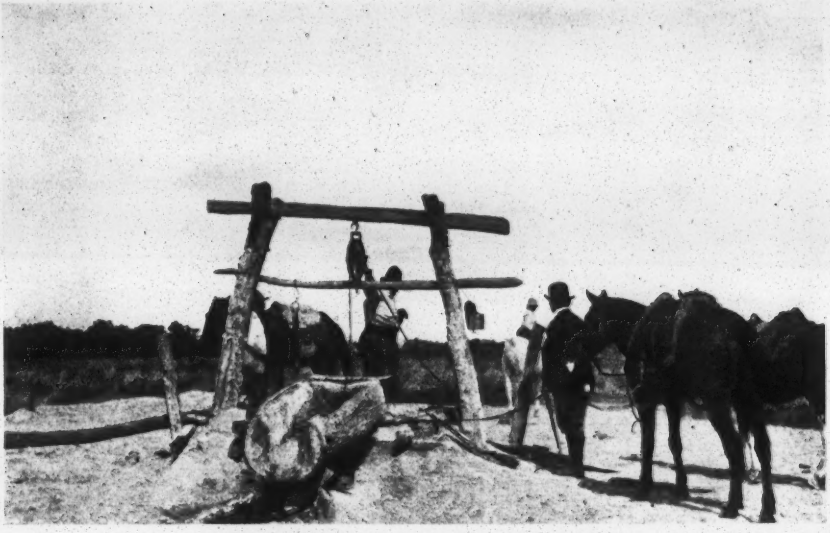
quinine to Java and the capture by the East Indies of still another South American trade. Plateaus of Peru and Ecuador, on which grew the evergreen containing quinine, overlook the Amazon Valley with its rubber trees. A British naturalist chartered a steamer and sailed out of the mouth of the Amazon, smuggling the young rubber trees that have made the Malay States, Sumatra, and Java, world sources of rubber. Other naturalists in the employ of Holland risking, and sometimes meeting, death brought seedling trees out of Peruvian forests. Descendants of these trees now supply the world's quinine.

In naming the tree from which quinine comes the Countess of Chinchon was remembered. Linnaeus, the Swedish botanist, who is responsible for the Latin scientific names assigned to so many plants, labeled it the cinchona tree, through an error in spelling the Countess' name. Cinchona is also the trade name for the tree and bark now.

Tree Seeks High Altitudes

The cinchona tree is a seeker of high altitudes. In Java, as in Peru, it grows on slopes 3,000 to 9,000 feet above sea level, where it can get ample rainfall. Oxidation of the peculiar alkaloids in the bark makes the surface a brilliant red. High Java hillsides are often distinguished by the trees rising 20 to 40 feet high with cherry bark, shiny green leaves and, in blooming season, white blossoms.



A NATIVE WELL IN THE ARGENTINE CHACO

With an area larger than that of New York State, the Argentine section of Chaco has a population less than that of Ithaca. A vast plain dotted with lagoons fills the northern part, dense forests lie farther south, and everywhere is to be found the valuable quebracho slowly surrendering before the advance of the colonist.

most massive mountain ranges. On the crest of one of the principal Andean passes, on the border line between Argentina and Chile, is the famous statue: "The Christ of the Andes." This figure was set up on the bleak mountain pass in commemoration of the peaceful settlement of a boundary dispute between the two countries, which threatened war.

Argentina covers a long range of latitude, extending from north of the Tropic of Capricorn to 55 degrees south, a position roughly comparable in the northern hemisphere to that from central Mexico to Hudson Bay.

Bulletin No. 5, October 20, 1924.

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"FOLK OF THE SEA"—THE FAIR-HAIRED TEUTON, OR NORDIC TYPE

Here a noted artist has recorded on canvas the distinctive physical attributes of a people less vivacious than the Celts and possessing longer faces, lighter hair, and blue eyes. (See Bulletin No. 1.)